

### **Amendments to the Claims**

1. (currently amended) A machine comprising:

a housing including an opening adapted to accept into the machine a stack of ~~sheets documents~~, the stack including both currency notes and checks;

a separating mechanism in the machine, wherein the separating mechanism ~~separates is operative to separate each of the~~ ~~sheets documents~~ individually from the stack;

an imaging device operative to produce an electronic representation of at least a portion of checks that have been separated from the stack;

a validating device operative to assess the validity of notes that have been separated from the stack;

a note handling mechanism operative to store notes assessed as valid through operation of the validating device.

2. (currently amended) The machine according to claim 1 and further comprising:

a cancellation device, wherein the cancellation device is operative to mark checks that have been placed in the machine.

3-15. (canceled)

16. (original) The machine according to claim 1 and further comprising at least one input device, wherein the at least one input device is operative to receive at least one input usable to identify a user of the machine.

17. (original) The machine according to claim 1 wherein the machine includes at least one note dispensing device, wherein the machine is operative to deliver notes through the opening.

18-40. (canceled)

41. (currently amended) A method comprising:

- (a) receiving a stack of ~~sheets~~ documents including notes and checks into a machine through an opening in the housing of the machine;
- (b) separating each of the ~~sheets~~ documents from the stack with a separating mechanism in the machine;
- (c) producing with an imaging device data corresponding to an image of at least a portion of a check separated from the stack;
- (d) assessing with a validating device the validity of at least one note separated from the stack;
- (e) accepting in a note handling device, notes assessed as valid by the validating device.

42. (currently amended) The method according to claim 41 and further comprising:

- (f) marking the ~~at least one~~ check with a cancellation device subsequent to step (e).

43. (canceled)

44. (currently amended) The method according to claim 41 and further comprising dispensing cash from the machine in response to ~~the~~ receipt of the ~~at least one~~ check by the machine.

45-67. (canceled)